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has been opened to tourists in the past few years. All the information that will contribute to the comfort and convenience of travelers is given with maps and a vocabulary, in the Pekinese dialect, of words and expressions which will be useful to tourists. Travelers are advised, however, "to show these characters in preference to any attempt to pronounce them as the right tones are difficult to give and a very slight error in tone may alter the meaning of the word." A six days' sight seeing tour of Peking with a description of the places to be visited is one of the features.

**Korea.** By Constance J. D. Coulson. vii and 85 pp., map and illustrations. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1910. \$0.75.

Another of the popular books in the "Peeps at Many Lands" series especially adapted for young readers and beautifully illustrated with colored plates.

**Die Japanische Kolonialpolitik.** By Fritz Wertheimer. 100 pp., L. Friederichsen & Co., Hamburg, 1910.

A desirable contribution to colonial problems in the Far East. The author derived a large part of his material from his own studies in Japan and its dependencies. Japan's distinctive colonies are Hokkaido, Formosa, Korea, and the southern half of Sachalin Island to which Dr. Wertheimer adds Manchuria though it is not counted politically as a part of Japan. He discusses Japan as a colonial nation, describes each of the colonies, treats of the native and labor questions in them, gives statistics of colonial trade and outlines the policy and purposes of the Japanese colonial system.

**Nord-Sumatra.** Bericht über eine im Auftrage der Humboldt-Stiftung der Königlich Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin in den Jahren 1904-1906 ausgeführte Forschungsreise. Von Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Volz. Band 1: Die Batakländer. xxi and 395 p., 3 maps, 12 plates, 123 text figures, appendix and index. 10 x 7. Dietrich Reimer (Ernst Vohsen), Berlin, 1909. Mk. 18.

Even if this highly valuable document contained naught memorable or new, nothing of note, it would yet in its form remain invaluable as an exposition of the method of field work of the well trained German geographers. Dr. Volz has had the opportunity to open a new terrain, he has been the first in a wholly unbroken field, he has conducted a reconnaissance in a land whose horizon is as new to geography as it was unfamiliar to himself. We have had occasion of late to comment on British exploration in which clear evidence was presented that the pioneer of new lands was provided with a list of ready made interrogatories whose answer he was expected first to discover. The German method leads to far broader results, it is a model well worth the following.

Sumatra has a peculiar importance in geographical and in ethnographical study. Lying so intimately in touch with the continent of Asia it suggests itself at once, and indeed ultimately it proves to be, the channel through which the Indonesian province received its Asiatic contamination of life, vegetal and animal, including in the latter the human as well. Yet in large areas Sumatra has escaped study. The reason therefor is largely political, for the northern tip of the island is dominated by the Atjeh, Acheen of the usual charts, and it will readily be recalled that for a period measurable now by centuries this obstinately intractable folk has obdurately declined the efforts of generations of the Dutch to reduce them to subjection.